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Dr. Josiah Hale

Hale, Jr.
Alexandria, Louisiana.

MS. 1.40

Bluelick Springs Ky, July 11. 1842.

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 19th Feby was received, in due course of mail, the printed sheet from the Flora was also duly received. For the handsome complement it contained, as well as a smaller one, in the former No, you have my thanks, I regret that I had no good specimens of *Malva Ludoviciana* on hand at the time of putting up the last parcel, and my absence from home will prevent me from collecting any the present season, it grows in the sandy hills of this neighborhood, in considerable quantity.

In May '41 I put up & directed to Dr Torrey a box of specimens unaccompanied, I believe, by any letter & as he does not mention it in his list, I fear it has been lost a thing I should regret, as it contained some specimens that I cannot at present replace among them I recollect some, in flower & perhaps fruit of *Lycium fluitans*, which he was anxious to obtain.

On leaving home I put up a large box of specimens, principally for your individual use, as the most of them had been sent to Dr Torrey on former occasions - under the impression, which I still presume was correct, that they were for your personal use.

The box, I saw, on board the ship Mississippi at N. Orleans, to sail about the 15th ult, and I presume will reach you before this sheet along with the box, in question, was shipped to your care, a smaller one, for the Rev. Mr. Curtis of N. Carolina, which you will deliver the same to forward to him, at Raleigh N. C. Your box was inadvertently marked to Dr. A. Gray.

The health of my family requiring me to visit the Springs, the present season, I shall do but little at collecting, I have but little hope of finding anything new, or particularly interesting, in this region, it having been so effectually explored by others - indeed there appears to be but little variety in the vegetation, a few plants appear to have originally possessed the soil and by their luxuriant growth, to have occupied it, to the exclusion of all others.

My absence from home has also prevented me from attending any new arrangement, by which to obtain the numbers of the "Flora," as published. You have three subscribers on N. River, besides myself, - Dr. Casper and Mr. Callana, in Alexandria & Judge Carr, in Natchitoches. Doctor Casper has accepted the appointment of Prof. of Materia Medica, in the College of La. & will, after November next, reside in N. Orleans.

I still hope Messrs Wiley & Putnam will make some arrangement with some of the Booksellers, in New Orleans through by which we may obtain the Flora, at an early day, after publication. - as there are ships sailing almost every day, from N. York to N. Orleans. - such an arrangement would be desirable in other respects. - I wish to obtain a number of Books these Gentlemen have advertised, or have published, I am anxious to get a copy of your elementary work. I several for young friends - also Endlicher's Gen. Plant. - & to become a subscriber for Hooker's Journal of Botany. - Dr. Peckham from the 5th vol. inclusive. - Dr. Torrey's Report, when finished as well as others not now recollecting, Messrs Casper & Callana will also take a number of Scientific books, as well as subscribe to some journals.

sent. Norman Steele & Co., N. H.

I understand Professor Torrey has removed to Plover, for the present season, and as I may not visit him for some time you will do me the favor to communicate any thing in this letter, in which he may be interested. I can say to him that I have not seen the Catalogue of N. York plants I would be obliged to him for a copy. - by mail. - I am not sure that I know to what particular plant the blank, in his last letter refers, but suppose it may be what proves to be a *Marsilea*. - *M. quadrifolia*. - a specimen with a single capsule, you will find in the box just sent. - In leaving home I have found this interesting little plant growing on the bank of the Mississippi, just below the mouth of the Atchafalaya, but without fruit.

Allow me to direct your attention to a specimen, badly preserved, of what I have supposed to be a new species of *Cristatella*? collected by Mr. Cobb of Natchitoches. - in a black calcareous soil near the Hot Springs Arkansas. in Sept last.

I have not had more than a glance at the last No. of the Flora, except the sheet you sent me but from what I saw, am of opinion, that to use the language of our esteemed correspondent, it "nobly sustains the character of the work."

A specimen of *Lin. Oak*, is from a tree growing with many others, 25 miles N. east of Alexandria, on the border of Catahoula Lake, a sheet of water 15 miles long by about 5 in breadth - a natural meadow from July to December. I measured two trees, which were 14 feet in circumference, 4 feet from the ground, entirely above the projections of the roots, and several others 12 feet in circumference - handsome trees apparently 50 ft high. Dr. Wabrey.

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Doctor-Asa Gray.

New-York.

L. B. Lick
July

